

George G. Vega Yon, Ph.D.

Data Science, Statistical Computing, & Complex Systems Modeling

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Education

Ph.D. in Biostatistics (concentration in Stat. Comp.) University of Southern California (2020).
Dissertation “Essays on Bioinformatics and Social Network Analysis: Statistical and Computational Methods for Complex Systems”

M.Sc. in Social Sciences (Economics) California Institute of Technology (2016)

Master in Economics and Public Policy, Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez (2011)

BS. in Social Sciences and **BS. in Business Administration**, Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez (2011)

Professional Experience

University of Utah, November 2021–Present Division of Epidemiology *Research Assistant Professor*. Division of Population Health Sciences, *Adjunct Assistant Professor*.

University of Southern California, 2015–November 2021 Department of Preventive Medicine *Research Programmer*. As a senior research staff member, my responsibilities include: Provide technical support on statistical computing, e.g., HPC, run training sessions on scientific software development, and writing scientific papers. Since August 2020, I co-instruct the Department’s Introduction to Data Science class.

Chilean Pension Supervisor, August 2011– August 2014 Research Division *Analyst*. Statistical and econometric analysis on the Chilean unemployment insurance, statistical software development, serving as a bridge between the IT and Research divisions.

Universidad Adolfo Ibáñez, January 2011–June 2012. School of Government *Adjunct Professor*. Taught Introductory courses of Economics, Microeconomics and Statistical computing with Stata.

Software (selected)

- [1] **George G. Vega Yon.** *aphylo: Statistical Inference of Annotated Phylogenetic Trees* (2022). R package version 0.2-1 URL: <https://cran.r-project.org/package=aphylo>. downloads 6058
- [2] **George G. Vega Yon.** *rgexf: Build, Import and Export GEXF Graph Files* (2020). R package version 0.16.0. URL: <https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=rgexf>. downloads 601K
- [3] **George G. Vega Yon, Thomas Valente.** *netdiffuseR: Analysis of Diffusion and Contagion Processes on Networks* (2020). R package version 1.22.0. URL: <https://github.com/USCCANA/netdiffuseR>. downloads 38K
- [4] **George G. Vega Yon, Kayla de la Haye.** *ergmito: Exponential Random Graph Models for Small Networks* (2020). R package version 0.3-0. URL: <https://cran.r-project.org/package=ergmito>. downloads 19K



- [5] **George G. Vega Yon**. *slurmR: A Lightweight Wrapper for 'Slurm'* (2020). R package version 0.4-1. URL: <https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=slurmR>. downloads 25K
- [6] **George G. Vega Yon**. *fmcmc: A friendly MCMC framework* (2020). R package version 0.3-0. URL: <https://CRAN.R-project.org/package=fmcmc>. downloads 21K

Academic Publications (selected)

- [1] **George G. Vega Yon**. "Power and Multicollinearity in Small Networks: A Discussion of "Tale of Two Datasets: Representativeness and Generalisability of Inference for Samples of Networks" by Krivitsky, Coletti & Hens". In: *Journal of The American Statistical Association* (2023). toappear.
- [2] **George G. Vega Yon**, Mary Jo Pugh, and Thomas W. Valente. *Discrete Exponential-Family Models for Multivariate Binary Outcomes*. Nov. 2022. arXiv: [2211.00627](https://arxiv.org/abs/2211.00627) [cs, stat]. (Visited on 11/02/2022).
- [3] **George G. Vega Yon**, Andrew Slaughter, and Kayla de la Haye. "Exponential random graph models for little networks". In: *Social Networks* 64 (2021), pp. 225–238. URL: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.socnet.2020.07.005>.
- [4] **George G. Vega Yon**, Duncan C. Thomas, John Morrison, Huaiyu Mi, et al. "Bayesian parameter estimation for automatic annotation of gene functions using observational data and phylogenetic trees". In: *PLOS Computational Biology* 17.2 (Feb. 2021), pp. 1–35. URL: <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pcbi.1007948>.
- [5] **George G. Vega Yon** and Paul Marjoram. "fmcmc: A friendly MCMC framework". In: *Journal of Open Source Software* 4.39 (July 2019), p. 1427. URL: <http://joss.theoj.org/papers/10.21105/joss.01427>.
- [6] **George G. Vega Yon** and Brian Quistorff. "parallel: A command for parallel computing". In: *The Stata Journal: Promoting communications on statistics and Stata* 19.3 (Sept. 2019), pp. 667–684. URL: <http://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/1536867X19874242>.

Honors and Professional Achievements

Technologies R, C++, \LaTeX , SQL, Python, XML, regex, Stata, AWS, Gephi, Pajek, Mathematica, Git, Docker, Visual Studio Code, tensorflow, continuous integration, Slurm, Unix.

Awards Best paper, 72 ICA conference, 2022; Travel Grant, Society of Young Network Scientist, 2019; Fellowship, California Institute of Technology, 2014; Scholarship, Adolfo Ibáñez University, 2006.

Manuscript reviewer JASA, BMC Infectious Diseases, The Official Journal of The Society for Computational Economics, The R Journal, Social Networks, Journal of Mathematical Sociology, JOSS, Bioinformatics, Computer Methods and Programs in Biomedicine Update, SUNBELT Conference (2016), IC2S2 (2019–2021).

Misc Founder of the [R Users Group in Chile \(2013\)](#), co-organizer of the [East LA R User Group \(LAERUG\)](#).